



Volume 1 - Number 7 * November 1998

**General
Articles**

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

**Other
Resources**

[Back Issues](#)

[UNT Main Page](#)

[UNT Calendar](#)

[Support Services](#)

[General Access
Lab Hours](#)

[Tutorials &
References](#)

[Training Web](#)

[Academic
Computing
Services](#)

[Computing Center](#)

[About
Benchmarks
Online](#)

[Subscribe to
Benchmarks
Online](#)

Feature Articles

[Campus Computing News](#)

Dr. Maurice Leatherbury, Senior Director of Academic Computing Services, continues to provide updates on campus computing. This month you'll find out about the "faster, bigger, better" Web servers and increased Internet backbone bandwidth in your future.

[Statistical Workshop Slated](#)

A special workshop is scheduled early next month for faculty members and researchers interested in finding out more about the advanced statistical package, S-Plus. Read this article if you think you might be interested in attending one of the two scheduled sessions. Refreshments will be served.

[Ten Digit Dialing Comes to
the Metroplex](#)

If your area code is either 214 or 972 and you use UNT-supported dial-up software, you will need to change the instructions in the dialer portion of that software on December 3, 1998. Further information is provided in the body of the article.

[WebCT at UNT](#)

WebCT® is the Web-based course delivery software that is supported at UNT by the Center for Distributed Learning and Central Web Support. What started with one class in July has exploded into 95 classes in development or production in November. With approximately

2,000 students in the system, and projections of up to 10,000 students in the system by fall of 1999, WebCT at UNT is getting a lot of attention.

[GroupWise News](#)

Did you know that all sorts of file types are viewable from within GroupWise 5.2? If you're a GroupWise user, this article could help you to get better functionality out of your E-mail. If you also use Netscape, make sure and read the warning about the latest version of Netscape and GroupWise.

[WWW-Lan is Gone](#)

Mark Wilcox, UNT's Campus Web Administrator, has been trying to "kill" the Novell-based Web site (www-lan.unt.edu) for some time. He finally did it. Read this article and find out why.

Benchmarks Online has a new look!

We hope your like our updated logo and find the links easier to read.

[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing News](#)

[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)

[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)

[WebCT at UNT](#)

[GroupWise News](#)

[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

Network Connection

By [Claudia Lynch](#), Guest Columnist and *Benchmarks Online* Editor

Dr. Baczewski was unable to complete the column he had planned for this month so we will revisit a topic of interest to anyone who has been an active Internet user.

SPAM

It's that time of year again, when the spammers gear up to barrage you with all sorts of holiday messages, many of which you are encouraged to forward to five friends!

In case you didn't know, according to [Webopedia](#), Spam is:

Electronic junk mail or junk newsgroup postings. Some people define spam even more generally as any unsolicited e-mail. However, if a long-lost brother finds your e-mail address and sends you a message, this could hardly be called spam, even though it's unsolicited. Real spam is generally e-mail advertising for some product sent to a mailing list or newsgroup.

In addition to wasting people's time with unwanted e-mail, spam also eats up a lot of network bandwidth. Consequently, there are many organizations, as well as individuals, who have taken it upon themselves to fight spam with a variety of techniques. But because the Internet is public, there is really little that can be done to prevent spam, just as it is impossible to prevent junk mail. However, some private online service, such America Online, have instituted policies to prevent spammers from spamming their subscribers.

There is some debate about the source of the term, but the generally accepted version is that it comes from the Monty Python song, "Spam spam spam spam, spam spam spam spam, lovely spam, wonderful spam..." Like the song, spam is an endless repetition of worthless text. Another school of thought maintains that it comes from the computer group lab at the University of Southern California who gave it the name because it has many of the same characteristics as the lunchmeat Spam:

Nobody wants it or ever asks for it.
No one ever eats it; it is the first item to be pushed to the side when eating the entree.
Sometimes it is actually tasty, like 1% of junk mail that is really useful to some people.

Spam has become so ubiquitous that it has reportedly been added to the latest edition of the *New Oxford Dictionary of English*. We have written about Spam many times in the past. "[Is Spam Illegal?](#)" was an April 1998 "Network Connection" that explored the legal remedies to Spam. That same issue of *Benchmarks Online* had an [article](#) about some of the steps UNT has taken to combat Spam on campus.

Spam Links

Following is an edited list of links taken mostly from [Spam/UCE-Fighting Resources](#):

- Background on the TCPA <http://www.consumer.net/telemarketing>
- Boycott Internet Spam - The definitive site, with lots of great info and links. <http://spam.abuse.net>
- ISP Acceptable Use Policies - Sample Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) for ISP's to use. <http://spam.abuse.net/aup.html>
- CIAC Bulletin: I-005c: E-Mail Spamming countermeasures - The US government office that alerts the world to virus threats gets serious about Spam. <http://ciac.llnl.gov/ciac/bulletins/i-005c.shtml>
- Spam FAQ or "Figuring out the site the Spam came from" - This is the second version, posted December 10th. <http://www.bluemarble.net/~scotty/forgery.html>
- "How to steer clear of Spammers radar" - USA Today <http://www.usatoday.com/life/cyber/tech/ctb562.htm>
- Blacklist of Internet Advertisers Main Site: <http://math-www.uni-paderborn.de/~axel/BL/>
- Stop Spam FAQ - Abused by e-mail advertising? Here are legitimate and legal ways of doing something about it! <http://www.mall-net.com/spamfaq.html>
<http://just4u.com/webconsultants/spamfaq.htm>
- Filter SPAM Out! A practical guide to procmail <http://www.sunworld.com/sunworldonline/swol-12-1997/swol-12-spam.html>
- ["Filtering Your E-Mail"](#) This May 1998 "Network Connection" article talks about filtering mail in UNT's specific environment.
- Spam calculator <http://www.brightlight.com/cgi-bin/spamulator2.cgi>
- Spam Legislation at a glance <http://www.msnbc.com/modules/spam/default.htm>
- State Spam Law site <http://www.jmls.edu/cyber/statutes/email/>
- Court Cases about Junk Email <http://www.jmls.edu/cyber/cases/spam.html>
- The Email Abuse FAQ <http://members.aol.com/emailfaq/emailfaq.html>
- Promote Responsible Net Commerce <http://spam.abuse.net/>
- How to Get Rid of Junk Mail, Spam, and Telemarketers <http://www.csn.net/~felbel/jnkmail.html>
- The Netizen's Guide to Spam, Abuse, and Internet Advertising <http://com.primenet.com/spamking/>
- Stop Unsolicited Mass E-Mail Advertisements! <http://www.coyotecom.com/stopjunk.html>

- "Outlaw Junk E-mail Now!" <http://www.public.asu.edu/~dtopping/ojen.html>
- [news:news.admin.net-abuse.policy](#) Discussion of how to combat Spam
- [news:news.admin.net-abuse.sightings](#) Post Spams here
- [news:news.admin.net-abuse.usenet](#) Discuss Usenet Spams
- [news:news.admin.net-abuse.email](#) Discuss E-mail Spams
- [news:news.admin.net-abuse.bulletins](#) Announcements of Spams cancelled and Spammers bounced
- [news:news.admin.net-abuse.misc](#) Anything else about Spam

Urban Legend Combat Kit

If you are one of those people who gets constant Spam attempting to play on your fears and/or sympathies, you might be interested in the "Urban Legend Combat Kit." The kit is described as a collection of individual E-mail letters, each of which focuses on a particular Internet urban legend or hoax. The letters are free of charge and are yours to do with as you please. They are made available by the people at the Internet Tour Bus. According to the [October 29 TOURBUS](#), the Combat Kit currently contains eight newly written email letters that help you combat the following Internet urban legends and hoaxes:

- The Kidney Harvesting Story [someone wakes up in a hotel room in a bathtub full of ice and their kidneys are missing]
- The Craig Shergold Story [a dying child wants you to send him business cards, greeting cards, or get well cards so that he can make it into the Guinness Book of Worlds records]
- The Dying Kid Stories [in return for your forwarding an email letter to all of your friends, a certain hospital or not-for-profit organization will make a donation to research in the name of a dying child]
- The 9-0-# Scare [by using 90# you end up giving the individual that called you the ability to make a long distance call and have the call charged to you]
- The Bill Gates Email Tracing Program Story [forward an email letter to all of your friends, and Bill Gates will give you money]
- The Disney Email Tracing Program Story [Walt Disney Junior will give you a free trip to Disney World if you forward an email letter to all of your friends]
- The Guinness Book of Records Story [sign your name to an email letter and forward it to your friends, and everyone who signs the letter will be named in the next Guinness Book]
- Virus Warnings [well, you probably know what these look like].

To retrieve all of the email letters that are in the newly updated TOURBUS Urban Legend Combat Kit for FREE, just send a new email letter to URBANLEGENDS@NETSQUIRREL.COM with the command GET HOAX PACKAGE

in the body of your email message.

Next time: In next month's "Network Connection," Dr. Baczewski plans to discuss a new proposal to centralize the registration of Internet names and numbers under one private organization, and how this might be a dramatic turning point in the growth and development.

[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing News](#)

[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)

[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)

[WebCT at UNT](#)

[GroupWise News](#)

[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)

[The Network
Connection](#)

List of the Month

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

List of the Month

Each month we highlight one Internet, USENET Special Interest Group (SIG), or similar mailing list.

NewbieNewsletter from Newbie-U

Do you ever feel like you don't quite understand exactly how the Internet works? Newbie-U may be able to help. Newbie-U uses a university metaphor, which should make all of us academic-types feel right at home. It has student "chat" unions, administration buildings, graduate courses, etc. You can entertain and educate yourself with interactive lessons on the history of the Web, downloading files, doing file transfers, using E-mail and IRC, and more.* It is not in the least intimidating, according to the folks at [TipWorld](#), who made it their Cool Web Site of the Day for 10/16/98. They described Newbie-U as succeeding ". . .in providing a spot for all of us who may have skipped a couple of chapters in our online how-to manuals."

You can reach Newbie-U at <http://www.newbie-u.com> and subscribe to the NewbieNewsletter from there. You can also subscribe via E-mail by sending mail to newsletter@newbie-u.com with the word **SUBSCRIBE** in the subject.

***Please note** that the information at Newbie-U is geared for generalized use of the Internet. People using UNT's dial-up software and computing facilities do not always fit the generalized model. For example, UNT students typically use Simeon as an E-mail client while faculty members use GroupWise. Some information given at Newbie-U, therefore, may not be directly applicable to your current computer configuration. Still, if you keep that in mind, you can improve your Internet knowledge and skills at your own pace in a non-threatening environment.

[Page One](#)[Campus
Computing News](#)[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)[WebCT at UNT](#)[GroupWise News](#)[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)[The Network
Connection](#)[List of the Month](#)[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)[Short Courses](#)[IRC News](#)[Staff Activities](#)[Shift Key](#)**WWW@UNT.EDU**By [Mark Wilcox](#), Campus Web Administrator

A Sojourn to San Jose

I thought I would take a moment this month to talk about my little trip to San Jose, California. The original reason I went out there was to give a talk at the SIGS Conference on JAVA. The talk was on programming Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) applications with the Netscape JAVA LDAP SDK. As a bonus, I got spend an entire day at Netscape Headquarters!

One of the things I have become somewhat of an expert on within the past year is an Internet protocol called LDAP.* I won't bore you with too many details, but LDAP is a protocol that is growing in importance.** It is a necessary "plumbing" protocol like DNS (the service that enables you to type in a name like www.unt.edu and get the UNT home page instead of having to remember the server's number, 129.120.209.1). This also means that it is only exciting for us server geeks.

LDAP is an important protocol to Netscape, though, because they are the leaders in the LDAP server market. And they are centralizing all of their product line around LDAP (having the two guys who wrote the original protocol working for you doesn't hurt). This is not to imply that LDAP is just a Netscape thing. Microsoft, Novell and Sun all now support LDAP in their core products.

This past summer I was nominated to become a Netscape Developer Champion. I accepted the nomination. There are about 15-20 champions total, so it is a pretty prestigious honor. As a champion I agree to moderate a portion of the the Netscape Developer newsgroup (mine is the Directory Developers which focuses on LDAP) and in return I get free membership in the Netscape Developer program plus a nifty t-shirt, desk clock & free server software (not that big of a deal because UNT, as an educational institution, gets this for free anyway -- but a nice gesture). I have been very active in this group for the past 6 months and now I am writing a regular column for their developer magazine [View Source](#).

Because of my status as a champion, Netscape offered me the chance to spend the day with them. It was very cool. The Netscape 'campus' (about 10 buildings in Mountain View, CA) reminded me a lot of a college campus, except that the college was making money (as opposed to being a non-profit organization :).

What was very strange was that they were asking for ideas about how to improve Netscape's developer site, in particular for LDAP and I was thinking "Hey, this is Netscape. Why are they asking me?". This was also, of course, a big boost to my confidence. It proved that I did actually know something about this Internet and Web stuff (and made me even more annoyed when people who barely knew MS FrontPage, called themselves "Webmasters", as if I could call myself "Doctor Wilcox" because I have seen every episode of ER).

I can also say that I don't think Netscape is going to die soon nor are they desperate. Instead they are repositioning themselves to become a company like IBM in terms of providing services to big corporations for their Intranet/Extranet operations. This is where the real money is to be made on the 'net. That's career advice for ya' :).

And before you ask, no I'm not leaving UNT, at least not anytime soon (San Jose, CA is too far away from family ;). The academic computing environment has too many interesting challenges and a lot more freedom when compared to the corporate world.

Until next time.

Mark

*See the October "Staff Activities" [column](#) for more information on Mark's LDAP prowess. - Ed.

** If you want to read up on LDAP, try the [LDAP FAQ](#).

[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing News](#)

[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)

[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)

[WebCT at UNT](#)

[GroupWise News](#)

[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

Short Courses

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks* Editor

ACS Short Courses are over for the fall semester. We will continue to offer similar courses in the spring. Follow [this link](#) if you would like to find out more about the short courses that ACS typically offers.

A special workshop on S-Plus is being offered for faculty members and researchers on December 1, click [HERE](#) for details.

The Computer Advantage courses, offered through the Human Resources Department, are back for the fall. Because these courses are offered in the Eagle Student Services Center (ESSC) Lab, UNT *students* can also attend the classes. Follow [this link](#) to check on the availability of these courses, which include:

- UNT Home Page & Netscape
- Introduction to Windows 95
- Introduction to Microsoft Word 97
- Advanced Microsoft Word 97 - MailMerge It Together
- Introduction to Microsoft Excel 97 Spreadsheet
- Introduction to Microsoft PowerPoint 97 Slide Shows

Customized Short Courses

Faculty members can request customized short courses, geared to their class needs. **Note** the special workshop [above](#), scheduled for December 1.

Other groups can request special courses also. Contact ACS for more information (ISB 119, 565-4068, lynch@unt.edu).

Especially for Faculty and Staff Members

As mentioned above, staff and faculty members can also take courses through the [Human Resources](#) Department. The new [Center for Distributed Learning](#) is offering courses especially for Faculty Members. Topics this semester include Windows 95, PowerPoint, Planning Your Course, Basic Video Conferencing, Multimedia, and a series of classes concerning putting course materials on the World Wide Web.

Alternate Forms of Training

The [Training](#) Web site has all sorts of information about alternate forms of training. Training tapes, Computer Based Training (CBT) and Web-based

training are some of the alternatives offered.n

[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing News](#)

[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)

[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)

[WebCT at UNT](#)

[GroupWise News](#)

[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

IRC News

Minutes provided by Sue Ellen Richey,
Recording Secretary



IRC Regular Voting Members: Ginny Anderson, Fiscal Affairs; Donna Asher, Administrative Affairs; Walter Bowen, Academic Administration; Bill Buntain, Communications Program Group; Sue Byron, Faculty Senate; Carolyn Cunningham, Student Affairs; Paul Dworak, College of Music and Standards & Cooperation Program Group; Don Grose, Libraries; Jenny Jopling, Instruction Program Group; Joneel Harris, Administrative Program Group; Allen Livingston, Graduate Student Council; Dennis Mueller, Research Program Group (on Sabbatical); Ramu Muthiah, School of Community Services; Robert Nimocks, Director, Information Technology, UNTHSC; Steve Oeffner, UNT Health Science Center Russ Pensyl, School of Visual Arts; Patrick Pluscht, Distributed Learning Team; Jim Poirot College of Education; Mark Rorvig, Research Program Group (acting for Dennis Mueller who is on Sabbatical); Kathleen Swigger, College of Arts and Sciences; Neal Tate, University Planning Council; Philip Turner, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs for Distance Education and Dean of the School of Library and Information Resources (Chair, IRC); Virginia Wheelless, Chancellor; John Windsor, College of Business. **IRC Ex-officio Nonvoting Members:** Leslie Bowden, Telecommunications; Wil Clark, GALMAC; Jim Curry, Microcomputer Maintenance Shop; Michael Forster, UNT Health Science Center; Richard Harris, Computing Center; Coy Hoggard, Computing Center; Maurice Leatherbury, Computing Center; Sue Ellen Richey, Computing Center (Recording Secretary). [As of 11/98]

September 15, 1998

Voting Members Present: Philip Turner, Chair, Carolyn Cunningham, Ramu Muthiah, Paul Dworak, Don Grose, Jenny Jopling, Robert Nimocks, Virginia Wheelless, Donna Asher, Ginny Anderson, Joneel Harris, John Windsor, Sue Byron, Russ Pensyl, Allen Livingston, Neal Tate, Bill Buntain, Kathleen Swigger.

Non-Voting Members Present: Coy Hoggard, Maurice Leatherbury, Richard Harris, Leslie Bowden, Sue Ellen Richey (Recording Secretary)

Members Absent: Dennis Mueller, Jim Poirot, Patrick Pluscht, Mike Forster, Jim Curry.

Guests: Wil Clark, Philip Baczewski

The Chair asked that everyone introduce themselves, since there were new members present.

The minutes of the July, 1998 IRC meeting were approved as distributed. [There wasn't an August meeting -- Ed.]

The Chair explained that after each IRC meeting, the IR Steering Committee meets to review any issues brought forward from the IRC. At the IR Steering Committee's last meeting, the issue of computerized forms, and electronic information transmission was discussed and placed on hold until after Year 2000 conversion projects have been completed. Dr. Turner noted that there was, however, favorable response among the members of the Steering Committee for this project.

Paul Dworak suggested that it wouldn't take any resources to set up a faculty committee to discuss this project. Dr. Turner responded that the vice presidents considered faculty time a resource. The Chair suggested that the project be brought up again next year.

Distributed Computing Support Management Team

Maurice Leatherbury reported that the Distributed Computing Support Management Team has been meeting regularly. The MacAfee virus scan software has been purchased and installed on all machines on campus. Jim Curry in Microcomputer Maintenance is selling Dell laptops now through the program that was initiated in February or March. Dell has upgraded the baseline configuration of those machines for about the same price as was charged for the original model. The Remedy call tracking system is up and running, with approximately 180 people having been trained on that system. At the present time, there are approximately 3400 trouble tickets on the system which were entered over the last 3 months.

Maurice reported that the Distributed Computing Support Management Team has had lengthy discussions about rolling out Windows 98 across campus. The majority of that committee doesn't want to do a wide-spread roll-out. Instead, Jim Curry will provide Windows 98 on all new computers he builds, in order to keep them compatible with new hardware he is getting with features that only run under Windows 98. There do not seem to be many differences between Windows 98 and Windows 95, as far as the general user is concerned, and it is believed that there would not be a need for staff training. Maurice stated that Windows 98 appears to be more reliable than Windows 95 and doesn't seem to have any major problems.

Year 2000 Remediation

Coy Hoggard reported that there are some critical things happening over the next few months. An operating system upgrade to the mainframe will take place the weekend of September 19th, which will provide a Year 2000 compliant operating system. Plans are to shut down the on-line production system at 5:30 p.m. Friday, September 18, with the overnight batch processing and backups to be run before 8:00 a.m. Monday. The new operating system will come up under production on Monday morning. Coy stated that his staff will remain focused on Year 2000 remediation throughout the Fall semester, because there is a lot of work to be done before the Christmas break, at which time the move of several remediated systems (including SIMS) to Production is planned.

Coy continued that, on the network side of things, Bill Buntain will soon become actively involved in the Year 2000 remediation. Maurice Leatherbury has requested all departments on campus to state their plans for old machines, and non-Microcomputer Maintenance machines. Cyndie Harris is making a building by building inventory of embedded chips found in such things as fire alarms, etc.

Enrollment

Joneel Harris reported that the enrollment for this Fall semester is 25,536.

Everyone E-mail

Paul Dworak brought the Everyone E-mail resolution for a second reading. He noted that he added Item 3.f which states that Public Affairs will forward a weekly summary of items of interest to everyone that is detailed elsewhere online. On behalf of the Standards & Cooperation Program Group, the proposal was presented for a vote. Paul briefly explained

the policy and the reason for its formulation. He also outlined the implementation procedures. A lengthy discussion followed, during which it was agreed that in each place in the policy where the word mail is used, that it be changed to E-mail. In addition, the listing of offices where everyone e-mail is owned or created was changed as follows:

1. The office of the Chancellor or any Vice President, or their designated representative;
2. The Associate Vice President for Marketing and Communication;
3. The Director of Human Resources;
4. The Chief of Police

It was also agreed that the applicability of the policy should be changed to all faculty, staff and students.

A vote was taken, with 9 voting against and 5 for the proposal.

Carolyn Cunningham moved that the item under the Procedures, renumbered 1, be given to a sub-committee under Maurice Leatherbury, for implementation. Jenny Jopling seconded that motion, and it passed. Maurice Leatherbury and committee are thereby charged with implementation of the following:

The University will provide alternative means by which members of the campus community can send messages to others who share common interests. These may include but are not limited to:

- a. Calendar of events
- b. Listservs to which individuals can voluntarily subscribe; e.g., a listserv for surplus equipment
- c. Newsgroups
- d. A Campus News page linked from the top level of www.unt.edu that is accessible only to UNT personnel. This page might require a campus editor who accepted items from members of the campus community and compiled them weekly
- e. Publishing links to groups and web sites in all faculty/staff publications on an ongoing basis
- f. Public Affairs will forward a weekly summary of items of interest to everyone that is detailed elsewhere online.

Distributed Learning Center

Dr. Turner reported for Patrick Pluscht that a steering committee has been formed for the Distributed Learning Center, with appointments being made by Deans and the Provost. A retreat is planned for October.

GALC and GALMAC

Philip Baczewski asked the Council to consider the proposal brought by Cengiz Capan at the June meeting regarding restructuring of the GALC and GALMAC. He explained that GALC would like to be given the position of a Program Group on the IRC, with a member being designated as a representative to the IRC; and that a member of the GALMAC be designated as a member of the Distributed Computing Support Management Team, and also attend the IRC meetings. It was requested that the Recording Secretary send out the IRC Charge, showing how IRC membership is formed, prior to the October meeting, at which time this issue will be re-visited, since this request will result in a change in the IRC Charge document.

Instruction Program Group

Jenny Jopling reported for the Instruction Program Group that the Classroom Support Services has met 99% of its goals for the Fall semester. In addition she reported that the Big 6 classrooms have been repaired, and they are working on placing a classroom inventory on the web, that will have query capabilities so that it can be used with the Registrar's office for classroom scheduling. Jenny also reported that she has been teaching faculty to use Web CT software for course development. There are distributed learning classes scheduled each semester. Jenny plans to start a brown-bag lunch once each month beginning October 1, in ISB 203 at Noon, for any faculty interested in using distributed learning. A demonstration will be given at each luncheon meeting.

March Meeting

A schedule of IRC meetings was distributed by the Recording Secretary, noting that the 3rd Tuesday of March falls during Spring Break, so the meeting that month will be held on March 9.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

October 20, 1998

The Chair asked that everyone introduce themselves, since there were new members present.

IR Steering Committee

Richard Harris reported that the IR Steering Committee met following the last IRC meeting; however, there were no action items taken to the meeting. Coy Hoggard reported to the V.P.s on the progress of the Year 2000 remediation; and the Everyone Mail issue was discussed.

Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee will begin meeting on the action plans that the university is preparing. There is a new process for developing an action plan and a new strategic plan that is more abbreviated, in terms of goals and objectives, but with more detailed action plans. The IRC Strategic Planning Committee will meet to review the action plans that are related, not to put together an Information Resources action plan, but just to provide some coordination so that there won't be any duplication of plans. A distinction will be drawn between proposed action plans and approved action plans.

GALC reorganization proposal

Philip Baczewski brought the GALC reorganization proposal before the IRC for a vote. Basically, the proposal recommends that the General Access Lab Committee be given the status of an IRC Program Group, reporting directly to the IRC; and that a member of the General Access Lab Managers Committee be appointed to serve as Ex-officio, Non-voting member of the IRC. There was some discussion and it was agreed that the proposal be changed to make clear that GALC acts as an advisory committee to the IRC, and an oversight board for the GALMAC. The current chair of GALMAC is Wil Clark, and the current chair of GALC is Cengiz Capan. An official motion was made by Paul Dworak to

approve the proposal, with amendments made to explain that the GALMAC member would serve as non-voting Ex-officio member on the IRC, and that GALC is an advisory committee to the IRC, and as oversight board to the GALMAC. John Windsor seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Year 2000 Remediation

Joneel Harris reported for Coy Hoggard that the Year 2000 remediation testing plan was completed on October 2. Copies of the plan are available upon request. On Oct. 7, a meeting was held to discuss the plan for user testing of screens and processes that will take place prior to the Christmas holidays, and users were asked to identify people who would be involved in testing. More meetings will be held to map out the specifics of the conversion of the Administrative Mainframe, which is to take place during the Christmas holidays. Joneel explained that the mainframe would be unavailable for use during the conversion. Discussion followed.

Administrative Program Group

Joneel also reported for the Administrative Program Group that the main focus of their group has been Y2K; however, she stated that their program group needs a new member from the Health Science Center, and stated that a the chair of GALMAC will serve on the APG as GALC representative. They will be seeking a student representative, as well. Joneel added that a number of administrators have begun meeting with the Distributed Learning group to address the various issues that deal with distributed learning, in anticipation of the Coordinating Board relaxing the regulations pertaining to courses delivered via the web.

Communications Program Group

Bill Buntain was absent so there was no Communications Program Group report; however, Bill asked Richard to announce that several program group members have left UNT so they are looking for new members. Richard also reported that for some time Datacom has been concerned with increasing the capacity of UNT's internet pipe from Denton to Dallas. There is currently a request for funding being taken to the Chancellor for approximately \$50,000 for the rest of FY99, to allow for an upgrade of our connection from 3MB to 9MB. After receiving the funding, it is expected that the increased capacity will be in place within 6 weeks.

Richard also reported that Bill Buntain and the whole Datacommunications team has been working to get their Year 2000 compliance issues resolved and they have made good progress. Most routers have been brought up to proper levels and they are now looking at the software applications.

Standards & Cooperation Program Group

Paul Dworak reported for the Standards & Cooperation Program Group. The Group has discussed the Supported Computing Items List and the possibility of moving to a Supported Processes List. They would like to document, for any process that the university is involved in, what is involved in the process and what the compatibility issues are. They foresee this being largely a project whereby the university community becomes educated about the processes that are in operation and supported on this campus, as well as documenting the various software site licenses that are available on campus. There was some discussion, and Paul explained that the Distributed Computing Support Management Team is in a better position to make specific recommendations as to what equipment or software will be

supported. Since the DCSMT reports to the IRC, those recommendations will come through the IRC. Paul Dworak stated that the Standards & Cooperation is happy to take any charge given to it by this Council. Paul asked IRC members to advise him directly of any initiatives they believe should be included in the scope of this project, or any other.

Jim Poirot asked if there had been any results from his previous inquiry about the internal tracking of low-cost computer equipment. Richard Harris reported that he followed up on that inquiry and met with Scott Dumas, Jim Curry and Phil Diebel. Jim Curry and Scott Dumas both concurred that the law doesn't require that UNT track low-cost items, but that Jim Curry needs to have those items on Scott's inventory so he can keep up with the equipment his shop maintains. Neither would agree to change anything. Richard agreed to re-visit the issue if Jim Poirot would like for him to.

Jim Poirot moved that Scott Dumas and/or Jim Curry be requested to report to the IRC on these and related issues. Sue Byron seconded and the motion passed.n

IRC Meeting Schedule

The **IRC** generally meets on the third Tuesday of each month, from 2-4 p.m., in the Administration Building Board Room. An exception to that schedule will occur in March of 1999 when it will meet on the second Tuesday to accommodate the Spring Break schedule.

All meetings of the IRC, its program groups, and other committees, are open to all faculty, staff, and students.n

[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing News](#)

[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)

[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)

[WebCT at UNT](#)

[GroupWise News](#)

[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

Staff Activities

Transitions

The following are new employees:

- **Joy Aswalap**, new/returning employee on the UNT/HSC Fiscal Data Systems Team.
- **Stacy Hartoon**, Tape Librarian.
- **Brendan Carroll**, part-time ABN support assistant.
- **Jatin Bavishi**, part-time CPU operator.
- **Wanda Fields**, part-time CPU operator.
- **Frank DiGrado**, part-time CPU operator.
- **Michael Heredia**, part-time CPU operator.
- **Nanda Hindupur**, part-time CPU operator.

The following person is no longer working in the Computing Center:

- **Veena Tadimeti**, part-time I/O operator.

Promotions, Transfers, and Other Changes

- **Richard Harris**, is now **Associate Vice President for Computing and Communications Services** to reflect the [merger](#) of Telecommunications with the Computing Center.
- **Bill Buntain's** title has been shortened to **Director of Network and Communications Services**.

Publications, Presentations

- **Mark Wilcox**, Campus Web Administrator, gave a presentation entitled "Introduction to LDAP Client Programming with the Netscape JAVA LDAP SDK" at the SIGs Conference on JAVA (October 20-24, 1998) in San Jose, California. See Mark's column, "[WWW@UNT.EDU,](#)" for his impressions of the conference.
- **Ryan Hickey**, Helpdesk Assistant Manager, and members of the North Texas Wind Quintet were declared State winners in the Music Teachers' National Association Chamber Music Competition on November 8. Along with winners from the Solo Division, they will compete at the MTNA Regional Competition at the end of January. They will also perform selections from their winning program on a concert sponsored by MTNA at the end of June in San Antonio.n



[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing News](#)

[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)

[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)

[WebCT at UNT](#)

[GroupWise News](#)

[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

Shift Key

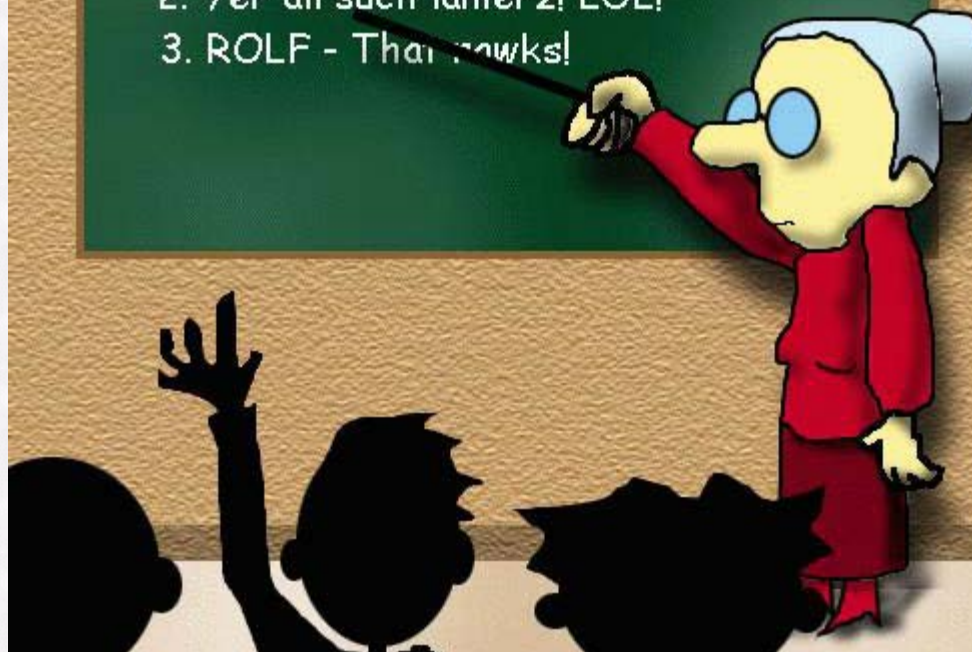
Shift Key

By [Randal Milholland](#), Documentation Assistant

Internet English 101

1. I got sum KeWl warez :)
2. Yer all such lamerz! LOL!
3. ROLF - That pawks!

(C) 1998 R. Milholland randy@unt.edu



[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing
News](#)

[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)

[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)

[WebCT at UNT](#)

[GroupWise News](#)

[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

Campus Computing News

By [Dr. Maurice Leatherbury](#), Senior Director of Academic Computing

Internet Backbone Bandwidth Increase

The University soon will be tripling the capacity of the data communications lines that connect us to the Internet backbone, from the current two "T1" lines to six T1 lines. A T1 line has a capacity of 1.544 million bits per second, giving us approximately nine Mbps when all six lines become operational. The increase will relieve the current congestion on our lines and, we believe, meet our expected demand for backbone capacity for the remainder of this academic year. The additional lines should be installed and operational by the beginning of the Spring, 1999 semester.

Faster, Bigger, Better Web Servers

UNT's dependence upon our central Web services grows at an accelerating rate: we had about 6.25 million "hits" on our central Web server machine in October, compared to 1.4 million in October 1996 and 2.3 million in October 1997. In addition, UNT's faculty are developing more than 90 courses on our recently-installed WebCT* Web course management system software that runs on that same computer. To insure that this critical resource remains reliable and responsive, we've purchased two Sun Netra 450 computers each with dual 250 MHz processors, one gigabyte of memory, and 50 GB of disk capacity. One of the new machines will be devoted primarily to UNT's central Web site (www.unt.edu) while the other will run WebCT. Files on the two machines will be replicated on a regular basis throughout the day so that if one machine goes down we can quickly reconfigure the network to allow the other machine to assume both roles without losing much if any data. Both machines are backed up daily to our central UNIX tape unit.

Mark Wilcox, the central Web administrator, is in the process of configuring the computers and installing all of the requisite software to get them up and running. Our goal is to have them operational by the beginning of the spring semester. The changeover to the new machines will be transparent to users except that they'll see quicker response from UNT's central Web services.

* For more information about WebCT®, see the article "[WebCT at UNT](#)" in this month's *Benchmarks Online*.

[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing News](#)

Statistical
Workshop Slated

[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)

[WebCT at UNT](#)

[GroupWise News](#)

[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

Statistical Workshop Slated

By [Dr. Karl Ho](#), Research and Statistical Support Services Manager

Academic Computing Services' [Research and Statistical Support](#) office will deliver a special workshop early next month introducing an advanced statistical package, S-Plus. The package is a recent addition to the office's software support coverage. *

The workshop is titled "Exploring the Power of S-Plus: A Presentation on Using S-Plus for Scientific Research" and will feature two presentations by Karl Ho and Rich Herrington and hands-on training for interested faculty and researchers. Topics include:

- Using S-Plus in teaching elementary statistics
- The S-Plus programming environment
- S-Plus Graphical Methods
- Using S-Plus for modern statistical methods (Trellis, GAM, ACE)
- Survey of resources available to S-Plus users (statlib, user contributed software, downloadable libraries, etc.)

The workshop will have two sessions to accommodate different schedules. Refreshments will be served between sessions in ISB 202. More details of the event are as follows:

Date: December 1, 1998

Place: ISB 203

Time: Session I -- 2 p.m.; Session II -- 3:30 p.m.

For any questions pertaining to the workshop, please forward inquiries to kho@unt.edu or call the RSS office at 565-2140. n

* For more information about S-Plus, see the previous *Benchmarks Online* articles:

- ["Statistical Computing Tips: S-Plus"](#)
- ["Research and Statistical Support Update"](#)

[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing News](#)

[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)

Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex

[WebCT at UNT](#)

[GroupWise News](#)

[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

Ten Digit Dialing Comes to the Metroplex

By [Ryan Hickey](#), Helpdesk Assistant Manager

It has come to our attention that, beginning December 3, residents of Dallas and surrounding areas (214 and 972 area codes) will be required to dial all ten digits (area code+phone number) when placing calls within the Metroplex. This will affect our users who currently dial into our systems from the Dallas area.

If your area code is either 214 or 972 and you use UNT-supported dial-up software, you will need to change the instructions in the dialer portion of that software. We have documented how to configure 10-digit dialing for all UNT-supported dial-up software on all UNT-supported OS's. A one-page handout called "10-digit Dialing Instructions for Dallas Area (214/972) Residents" is available from the Computing Center Helpdesk area in ISB 119. It can also be found on the Web at: <http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/ras/10-digit-dialing.htm> n

[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing News](#)

[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)

[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)

WebCT at UNT

[GroupWise News](#)

[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

WebCT at UNT

By [Sharon Marek](#), Central Web Support

WebCT® is the Web-based course delivery software that is supported at UNT by the Center for Distributed Learning and Central Web Support. What started with one class in July has exploded into 95 classes in development or production in November. With approximately 2,000 students in the system, and projections of up to 10,000 students in the system by fall of 1999, WebCT at UNT is getting a lot of attention.

We have a lot of documentation on WebCT at UNT, produced in [Central Web Support](#). Our documentation is divided into three areas: the Student Guide and Instructor Guide, created and maintained by me (marek@unt.edu) and the Administrator Guide, written by Mark Wilcox (mewilcox@unt.edu) -- all located at <http://courses.unt.edu/webct/>

The [Student Guide](#) has sections for those new to WebCT, like the Introduction to WebCT, which details what students need to have in terms of computer and browser. But there is more than that to the Student Guide - it also provides basic information on most of what students will encounter in a WebCT class and FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions -- with Answers!) on topics like mail, chat, and the bulletin board. In addition to being featured on WebCT at UNT's support site, our Student Guide is also featured by [WebCT](#). Instructors from the University of Hawaii and the University of Leeds in the UK have received permission to incorporate UNT's Student Guide into their own WebCT courses.

The [Instructor Guide](#) contains detailed information on a variety of WebCT components -- from customizing the Welcome Page to creating a quiz. The Instructor Guide gains a new section every few weeks, so keep checking on it! While emphasized in the courses taught by the [Center for Distributed Learning](#) at UNT, the Instructor Guide is also used (with permission) in an Educational Technologies course by the University of Wollongong, Au; featured in faculty workshops at the University of Valdosta; and provided as an example of what can be done by the University of Missouri-Columbia.

One of the best things about WebCT at UNT is that we've integrated Microsoft FrontPage -- making the course delivery software much easier to use. The [Administrator Guide](#) focuses on that integration at the server level, and is provided as a courtesy for other institutions.

The documentation we provide only improves with feedback -- if you have any comments, questions or suggestions about any of the WebCT at UNT documentation, please contact me (Sharon Marek) at 369-7296 or email marek@unt.edu For information on using WebCT at UNT with your course, contact the Center for Distributed Learning at 565-2708. n

**Don't Forget The Center for
Distributed Learning's Brown Bag**

Lunch Series

Meet for lunch and learning the first Thursday of each month at Noon in ISB 204. The December Brown Bag (December 3) will feature Dr.'s Philip Turner and Herman Totten from Library and Information Sciences. They will demonstrate the delivery of a 100% web-based course with WebCT®. A three hour crash course for beginners will be offered immediately following the Brown Bag in ISB 203 for those interested in using WebCT.

You may register by sending E-mail to [Kim Crawford](#) or sign up at this month's Brown Bag for next month's class.

[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing News](#)

[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)

[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)

[WebCT at UNT](#)

GroupWise News

[WWW-Lan is
Gone](#)

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

GroupWise News

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks Online* Editor

Viewing Different File Formats

According to [Sandy Burke](#), Manager of Support Services, "one of the great features of GroupWise 5.2 is the ability to view different file formats when they are attached to a mail message. The way the program does this is to look at the 3 character file extension to determine what program created this file and use that viewer. For example, Word files use .DOC, Excel files use .XLS, PowerPoint uses .PPT, and WordPerfect documents use .WPD."

If you are going to send attachments with your E-mail messages, Sandy says "please don't change the file extension, the way we sometimes did in the DOS based programs. This creates a problem for the Viewers to figure out what program created the file, and therefore cannot be read."

Out with the in:

Another feature of the GroupWise 5 clients, new to UNT, is the ability to enter Internet E-mail addresses without preceding them with "in:". The old "in:" syntax will still work, but you will probably find it more convenient to just enter the Internet address.

Netscape Users Beware

The latest version of Netscape, version 4.5, is now available. When you are installing it you are asked if you want to make it your default mail program the first time you start its mail feature. Don't choose this "feature"! It breaks GroupWise and will also break the mail feature in Netscape.

More Questions About GroupWise?

Don't forget the GroupWise FAQ. As reported in the [October Benchmarks Online](#), the Computing Center has compiled a list of questions that are frequently asked about the GroupWise client. You can find the complete list, along with answers to the questions, at <http://www.unt.edu/cwn/gw/userFAQ.html> .n

[Page One](#)

[Campus
Computing News](#)

[Statistical
Workshop
Slated](#)

[Ten Digit Dialing
Comes to the
Metroplex](#)

[WebCT at UNT](#)

[GroupWise News](#)

**WWW-Lan is
Gone**

[The Network
Connection](#)

[List of the Month](#)

[WWW@UNT.EDU](#)

[Short Courses](#)

[IRC News](#)

[Staff Activities](#)

[Shift Key](#)

WWW-Lan is Gone

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks Online* Editor

Mark Wilcox, UNT's Campus Web Administrator, has been trying to "kill" the Novell-based Web site (www-lan.unt.edu) for some time because it is a drain on the limited [Central Web Support](#) staff. All departments that had Web pages on [www-lan](http://www-lan.unt.edu) have moved them to Calliope (www.unt.edu.) Many staff members had personal pages on the Novell server that was pointed to by [www-lan](http://www-lan.unt.edu) also. Those should have been moved to <http://people.unt.edu> by now.

If you had a personal page on www-lan.unt.edu and didn't move it but would like to, you should still be able to accomplish this. You can find help on setting up personal Web pages by visiting <http://people.unt.edu>. Forwarding from [www-lan](http://www-lan.unt.edu) has been set up so that anyone trying to get to your old address will have some indication that your Web page has moved. If you have further questions about this, please contact the Central Web Support staff at (940) 565-2568 or send them mail at www@unt.edu. n